

Proceedings of the Eleventh Regular
Quarterly Meeting of the Pacific
Coast Entomological Society.

The Eleventh regular Quarterly meeting of the Pacific Coast Entomological Society was held on the evening of Feb 20th, 1904, at the residence of Miss Julia Wright, 2329 Pacific Ave., Alameda, Calif.

President Yuchs in the chair.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Eleven members responded to roll call:-

Chas. Yuchs, J. S. Hunter, J. E. Cottle,
L. E. Rickeneker, Julia Wright, Bertin Chapman,
Dr. E. C. Van Dyke, Fordyce Grinnell, J. C. Huguenin,
T. W. Munenmacher, Dr. F. E. Blaisdell.

The following invited guests were present:-

Mrs Bessie Wright, Mrs J. E. Cottle, Mrs J. C. Huguenin
Mrs. F. E. Blaisdell, Mr. A. Wright, Mrs A. Wright
Mrs Chas Yuchs, Ernst Strubberg, W. H. Volkle,
Mrs Helen Rickeneker, Mrs L. C. Marin, T. X. Williams

Mr. President:-

The following is the Quarterly Treasurer's report for quarter just ended:-

Dues rec'd at last meeting, \$2.50

Bal. in Treasury at last meeting, 7.15

Dues rec'd ^{since} last meeting, .50

Total \$10.15

Expenses since last meeting, 2.15

CHIEFS QUINNAY AND SO CHAIKANEE ARE TO SPEAK

Bal. in Treasury \$8.00

W. F. E. Blasdell, Pres.

Mr. Francis X. Williams was elected to membership.
Mr. Fordyce Grinnell then read a paper - "An Early
Californian Collector".

Mr. Chas. Yuchs followed with a paper on Cocconot-
lidae - "Their Habits and Value".

Mr. L. E. Pickracker stated that he had recent-
ly received a letter from Mr. Blanchard, stating
that he was still at work on entomological
studies.

Mr. Pickracker then gave reminiscences
on collecting from an old stump - "And a big
one at that"! He referred especially to some
Glomerides of the subfamily Eucneminae, - a
Sromaeolis, and that he had distributed them
all over the U. S.. Mr. Blanchard wanted more,
as he had sent some D. hospitalis among the
others. Those found on Spruce are D. californicus,
while the food plant of D. hospitalis is the
Alder. Dr. Van Dyke stated that he found
D. humeralis and californicus on pine and spruce.

Mr. Pickracker stated that Beetles feeding
on certain Coniferæ will come to spruce in
Sonoma Co., as there are no other coniferæ
there. Douglas's spruce is probably the food
plant.

Mr. F. X. Williams being called upon
responded with remarks on a trip to Echo Lake
in Shasta Co. in June. He found it cold -
several Carabidae and Buprestidae were taken
Lepidoptera were not abundant - Thelata
dimetorum, Lycaena prodace, and Sphinx
peralejans were taken. The country is rocky
and rugged above the Coniferous belt, the
Many altas predominated. Chionobius were
taken there.

Mr Cottle then spoke about the May meeting and that some place should be determined upon for that Field Day.

It was mentioned that the Society go to Alma, Santa Clara Co., as Mr J. G. Blaustein was willing and desirous to aid the Society in making the day an event.

Mr L. E. Rickeracher was desirous to have the Meeting in Sonoma Co..

Miss Julia Wright exhibited a box of Tasmania beetles.

Mr H. W. Nunenmacher, Hydrotripez lignaeus, and Polycaon sp.

There being no more business before the Society, we had discourse and refreshments followed.

A feature of the Evening were the souvenir cards prepared by Miss Julia Wright. Each member present as far as could be determined before dinner received a card with his favorite insect painted upon it. The Evening was a most enjoyable one.

J. E. Blaustein Sec.
1800 O'Farrell St.,
San Francisco.

AN EARLY CALIFORNIA COLLECTOR.

Pierre Joseph Michel Lorquin was born in Valencienne Northern France, about the year 1800. He entered the University of Douay, graduating with honors, when he entered a notary's office as first clerk and rose steadily until he obtained papers which entitled him to practice his profession. In 1840 he removed to Paris where he was referee in the High Tribunal: this was a high office at that time and the occupant was of considerable importance. In 1848 the Revolution broke out and Lorquin applied for a position in Algiers: he obtained this and took up his residence at that place: this was his first most important voyage and here he collected a great amount of valuable and interesting lepidopterological material.

Hearing of the discovery of gold in California in 1850, he relinquished his position and set out for the new El Dorado: but gold was not first in his mind: it was the thought of the virgin field he would be the first to explore scientifically, and the number of new things he would be sure to get. He arrived in 1850 and started for the mines in Tuolumne County, probably no doubt to practice his profession as a lawyer, as there was plenty for lawyers to do in those days of '49. Here he began his collections. He sent for his family: and they arriving in 1852, he set out for a tour of the northern part of California: from Sacramento, he went to Downieville, Plumas County, Eldorado County, Stockton and Carson City, Nevada. His excursions were continued in the South where he visited Los Angeles and San Diego: At the latter place he obtained *Lycaena regis* or *sonorensis*. On account of his son's health, he returned to San Francisco. The next year, 1854, he started on another excursion northward and visited Monte Cristo in Sierra County, Yuba River, Amador County, Calaveras County, Mariposa County, south to Fresno County, and north to Marin County and Sonoma County till 1856. In the latter year, he started out for Manilla, Philippine Islands, but came back again in 1861, when he remained one year. In 1862, he left for Cochin China and visited the following places in turn always collecting Lepidoptera:-- Hong Kong, China, several islands of the Philippine group, Celebes, Ami Islands, Cerun, Aribouyna, Ternate, Gilolo and Java. In the latter place he had an attack of fever which compelled him to remain in a hospital for some time. When he recovered, he returned in 1870 to Paris. He travelled a little in Southern France and Spain collecting butterflies and moths. He

had prepared to return to the Philippines again but died only a few days before he was to start in 1877.

Mr. Lorquin was a medium sized man, and had a very strong constitution which enabled him to travel everywhere in search of specimens, always on foot. He was a great pedestrian, being able to walk long distances without being fatigued. In his travels in the East Indies, he lived with the natives by whom he was much helped in his travels and collecting.

Mr. Lorquin is an important character in California Entomology as almost all the lepidoptera described from the Pacific Coast by Boisduval were collected by this man. Dr. Boisduval was Lorquin's family physician.

In 1852, Dr. Herman Behr and Mr. Lorquin met in San Francisco and from that time were close friends. Dr. Boisduval always sent a specimen of each species when he described it back to Lorquin and these co-types were turned over to Dr. Behr and are now preserved in the museum of the California Academy of Sciences. Lorquin also collected other insects, especially beetles, and one, a cerambycid, is called *Calloides lorquinii*.

Mr. Lorquin never learned English well enough to give the Philippines Boisduval-Behr there was no chance that he was now just on the point of learning English and now had to drop the project.

Pierre Joseph Michel Lorquin holds a unique position in California Entomology as the discoverer of so many of our species and will always be thought of in connection with that noted group of California students of the Lepidoptera-- Behr, Behrens, Stretch, Henry Edwards and Rivers.

I am indebted to Mr. E. F. Lorquin of San Francisco for these particulars in regard to his father's life.

HABITS & VALUE of the COCCINELLIDAE.

by Charles Fuchs.

I believe everyone is familiar with the so-called lady-bird, a beetle belonging to the family of the Coccinellidae: a little scarlet beetle whose back is variegated with many dots and designs. It feeds mainly on plant lice which infest trees and shrubbery and for that reason were named Aphidiphagi by Latreille. The larva of the Coccinella is so voracious that it is worthy of particular attention. In the fall of the year when the sap of the plants diminishes and the cold weather sets in and there are no more aphides, the beetle seeks shelter in great multitudes for the winter period. On one occasion I found in the State of New York about four hundred of the Megilla maculata under the bark of an old snow clad tree. They were in quite a frozen condition, but upon being transported into the warm atmosphere of my room, soon recovered consciousness. The first mild spring days aroused them from their winter sleep. Every orchardist is aware of the value of the black lady bug with two large red spots. Without this insect scale bugs and plant lice would have been dominant over all orchards.

To illustrate the importance of the Coccinellidae, I should like to add that the Agricultural Department in Washington, D.C. considered it opportune to send their eminent field agent, Mr. Albert Koebele to Australia, to gather specimens of the family of Coccinellidae and to transport them into California. Mr. Koebele is entitled to worthy esteem for achieving this which is both interesting and valuable. The account thereof, published in the Bulletin No. 21, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Entomology, gives excellent and useful disclosures.

My intentions are not to enter upon a scientific discussion, as we have so many works written by famous entomologists, viz:--Leconte, Mulsant and others. I merely wish to indicate clearly the singular and almost universal admiration with which this tiny creature is regarded and the care with which it is protected. Even the little naughty boys who torment all other insects, which are without means of repelling assault, have a tender consideration for these beloved friends.

The popular names given to these beetles indicate that man has a striking compassion for them. . Thus in America it is called "Lady bug" and in England the common name applied to them is "Lady bird." In England when examples of these little beetles are found by the children, they are placed upon the tip of a finger and breathed upon and enticed to fly while the children sing "Lady bird, Lady bird, fly away home: your house is on fire, your children at home." In Germany, the beetle is called "Sonnenkaelbchen" (little sun calf), "Gottesschaefflein" (God's little sheep), or "Marienwuermchen" (the little worm of the Holy Mary). In France "Vache a Dieu" (God's cow), "Cheval a Dieu" (God's horse) and "Bete de la Vierge" (animal of the Holy Virgin).

All these names existed long before science had discovered the utility of these insects. It is indisputable that, already before our great entomologist Linne lived, this class of beetles fulfilled that work which nature has laid out for them and without doubt were observed by sagacious men who comprehended their mission. The people know nothing of their beneficial work, but notwithstanding this, they love and cherish them.

